

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

13 March 1978

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Honorable Bill D. Burlison
Chairman, Subcommittee on Program
and Budget Authorization
Permanent Select Committee on
Intelligence
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As a followup to my appearance before your subcommittee at the budget hearing of 7 March, I am providing additional information concerning the impact that the Freedom of Information Act and related Federal programs has had on the Agency. Proposals for legislative relief are also advanced for your consideration.

Requests for access to records are levied upon the CIA pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the Privacy Act, and Sec. 5(C) of Executive Order 11652. Executive Order 11652 has been in effect since 1 June 1972, but the request volume did not become a problem until 1975, when the Privacy Act of 1974 and the 1974 amendments to the Freedom of Information Act took effect. The table below sets forth the number of requests received, by category, from 1 January 1975 through 31 December 1977. The figures given include only those requests actually accepted for processing. An additional 3,997 requests, principally requests for access to personal records, were received during this period but never processed because of the failure of the requester to provide the information needed to establish his identity beyond doubt or to provide a more precise description of the records sought. Though never fully processed, each of these unlogged requests has required, at the minimum, the establishment of a case file and at least one letter of response, thereby adding to our workload.

| | <u>1975</u> | <u>1976</u> | <u>1977</u> | <u>Totals</u> |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| FOIA requests | 6,609 | 761 | 1,252 | 8,622 |
| PA requests | 552 | 2,356 | 3,023 | 5,931 |
| EO requests | <u>232</u> | <u>374</u> | <u>568</u> | <u>1,505</u> |
| Totals | 7,393 | 3,491 | 4,843 | 16,058 |